



1746

CASE CL/V-31174A

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Jennifer China
Type or print name

Signature

February 3, 2003
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF
AJELLO ET AL.
APPLICATION NO: 09/678,278
FILED: OCTOBER 13, 2000
FOR: DEBLOCKING CONTACT LENSES

Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: Mathieu D. Vargot

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

FC 1700 MAIL ROOM

RECEIVED

FEB 13 2003

#4
P.L.H.
22503PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of October 2, 2002 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on November 1, 2002. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$920 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Gorman, Jr.
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 41,789
Phone No. (678) 415-4389

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Patent and Trademark Dept.
One Health Plaza
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: February 3, 2003